

## LOCAL NEWS.

**CITY COUNCIL.**—The regular semi-monthly meeting of the City Council was held last night. For official proceedings see another column.

**Board of Aldermen.**—Mr. Markell was called to the chair in the absence of the President. Mr. Suttle asked if the Finance Committee had taken any steps to get the old tax bills from Mr. Stinson, formerly Corporation Attorney. The tax bills, he thought, ought to be in the hands of the committee that they might have them as a basis on which to make calculations with regard to taxes for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Harmon stated that he had formerly reported concerning a contract between Mr. Stinson and a former Council, and that Mr. S. had been waiting to get the bills for the year succeeding the one for which he held bills.

Mr. Agnew said he thought he remembered that Mr. S. was obliged to give bond, and had failed to do so.

Mr. French said that no list of these bills held by Mr. Stinson could be found in the Auditor's office.

Mr. Suttle said that it was probable Mr. S. had given receipt for the bills, and if he had given bond as he should, and had not carried out his part of the contract, he could not expect to be paid, nor could he expect to hold the bills always. It was a hard case to keep the city out of these taxes through the delinquency of any one.

The chairman of the Finance Committee promised to attend to the matter.

Mr. Suttle reported with reference to the application of Michael Smith to repair the street in front of his house, on Queen street, near Patrick. It would involve such extensive repairs in the entire neighborhood as to preclude by its cost the execution of the work asked for by the petitioner.

Mr. Simpson reported the very bad condition of the pavement in front of the property of Mr. Leatherland on Henry street, the sidewalk being a foot higher in some places than in others. A resolution was adopted instructing the Superintendent of Police to require the owners of property on Henry street between Queen and Cameron to fill up these points to the proper level.

Mr. Suttle read the report of the special committee to rearrange the ward of the city. The report makes Prince and St. Asaph streets the dividing lines. He stated that the lines had been drawn so as to avoid the imputation of partisan dealing, while the division was an improvement as more equally dividing the city into wards.

The bill was put upon its passage, the rule being suspended, and the chair declared it adopted.

Mr. Suttle asked for the ayes and nays. Mr. Simpson offered a resolution to authorize the improvement of the square bounded by Princess, Fairfax, Royal and Oranoco streets, by putting in a drain.

His object was to abate a nuisance which existed there, and improve property. A deeply gully ran down that neighborhood conveying the entire drainage of Pitt street diagonally across that lot.

Mr. Suttle inquired if Council could go on private property to make these changes. After further discussion the resolution was adopted.

A communication from W. G. Cazenove was read on the subject of the title of the city to property at the foot of Cameron street, west side. He claimed that his title to it was perfect until the city refunded the entire cost of improving that property, it having been reclaimed from a marsh which formerly existed there.

Mr. Agnew said this termination of the street was one of the pieces of property designed by the committee on the subject of a new court house to be sold to assist in defraying the expenses of that building. He did not see how the city could sell this any more than the foot of King street.

Mr. French said if the city in 1810 had the right to grant any one the exclusive right to this property by lease, then the city could take it back now. It has been occupied as private property long enough. He further claimed that Mr. Cazenove's property would be more accessible by the widening of the street there. These persons had had possession for 60 years, but that should surely be no reason why the city could not reclaim what was its own, and if it could not be sold then lease it so that the city could derive some benefit from it.

Mr. Agnew said that if he owned property on the opposite side of Cameron street he would apply to Council to have this street opened, and he would think that his request should be granted. But he did not think Council could do away with the termination of Cameron any more than with that of King or any other street.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Agnew and French, and by Mr. Suttle, who said that he did not want to get the corporation into any difficulty, but it seemed to him that if the city could lease this property to Herbert & Coleman 60 years ago, surely it had the right to reclaim it now by complying with the terms of the lease. As he understood it east of Union street was land, and to this the city surely had an equal right with the other holders.

Mr. Simpson said that a provision of the lease was that it should be reserved for the use of market people landing there. He was not certain that the city could sell this property, though he thought that it was as well for the corporation to hold it again.

The subject was then passed over. A resolution that the Washington and Ohio Railroad be granted the exclusive use of Water and Union streets from the depot to Montgomery, inclusive, for — years, was read.

Mr. Suttle was opposed to the exclusive use of the streets for so long a time as was proposed to fill the blank with (30 years.)

Mr. Simpson thought that the city could hardly build these streets for a long time to come, and if the railroad company would grade them it would be a much needed improvement. He recalled the opposition to the city allowing the same railroad the use of Water street, the use of which brought that magnificent improvement, the Washington and Ohio Railroad depot. He would, however, modify the resolution by striking out the word exclusive.

Mr. Suttle thought it objectionable to give these parties the use of these streets—valuable city property—for so long, and then allow them to be improved. It would be really a sale of them, as if the improvements were very costly, the city could not pay and the Railroad would hold them forever.

Mr. Simpson said with regard to the period — years—he would like to modify that, as he wanted to live to see the end of it.

Mr. Agnew was opposed to paying the R. R. Co. the original outlay. If the R. R. wanted the use of these streets for so long it could surely improve them itself for the consideration of their use. He moved to fill up the blank with 15 years. Without a vote on this, the resolution was referred to the Committee on General Laws.

The Board concurred in the resolution of the lower Board to authorize the special committee on the Court House to sell the old C. H. on Columbus street.

The committee on public property reported in reference to the repairs to the Star Engine house, that it would cost \$510 and that the work was in progress.

The Board declined to concur in the action of the other branch in refusing to place a fire plug at the Cotton Factory.

Mr. Simpson said that the corporation should exercise in this matter not liberality but justice to property holders. If fire were to break out in the Cotton Factory it would be a very serious matter to the city if that prop-

erty were destroyed. It was an act of simple justice to that property to put this fire plug there.

Mr. Suttle said he thought the request a reasonable one. He understood that Mr. Turnbull, the lessee of the Factory, would pay a part of the cost.

On the subject of the repairs to the Star Engine house Mr. Harmon wanted to know if the committee were authorized to enter into this extravagant outlay of \$510. He was opposed to such expenditure when there was not money enough in the treasury to pay the corporation officers.

Mr. Agnew said it was evident that we were very recklessly spending money here; he had perhaps voted for too many of these appropriations himself. Let us be cautious; we were spending money as lavishly as though we were rich.

A resolution was made to authorize the Superintendent of Police to purchase flagging to put down at the crossing in front of the residence of Mr. Packwood, on Wolfe street.

Mr. Harmon—"Well, go on, here we are, appropriating about \$1500 a night." Resolution adopted.

The papers on the subject of repairing the street in front of Michael Smith's property on upper Queen street, come in. Mr. Suttle said that it would cost at least \$1500 to do what was asked.

Mr. Simpson said that it would do the property of Mr. Smith no possible good to do what he asked unless extensive changes were made in the entire street in that neighborhood.

The Board declined to concur in the report of the committee authorizing these repairs, and then adjourned.

**Common Council.**—The board met last night. A large quorum being present, and but half a dozen persons outside the bar. In the absence of the President, Mr. Massey took the chair, and Mr. Shinn acted as Secretary.

Mr. Evans, from a Conference Committee, reported verbally that the committee had agreed to report in favor of agreeing to the action of the Board of Aldermen, but the original papers were missing.

The committee on repair of the Star Engine House, reported that the work had been begun; adverse to the erection of a fire plug at the cotton factory; and in favor of releasing R. H. Gemeny from his lease, when he settled for rent, now due, but that the rent continue until that time.

Mr. Massey stated that Mr. Turnbull was willing to pay \$50 towards the erection of a fire plug at the cotton factory; whereupon the subject was recommitted.

The memorial of the Columbia Fire Co., asking that the tenure by which the steam fire engine Columbia is granted the company be so changed as to allow the company to retain the engine so long as they should obey the orders of the fire department, was read.

A motion by Mr. Evans to lay on the table, and by Mr. Price to postpone to the next meeting having been rejected.

Mr. Harrison explained that the Columbia Co. had raised \$700, and were about to buy a pair of horses, but they feared that owing to some outside drift, a future council might undo what this council had done.

Mr. Shinn was one of those who had favored placing the engine further up town, but he thought that now the company had the engine they should be allowed to keep it so long as they obey the rules laid down by the City Council.

The vote on the resolution was taken: five voted in the affirmative, and three in the negative.

The chair—It is carried.

Mr. Evans—I differ from the chair. I think it takes a majority of the whole board (9.)

The chair said that as this was not an appropriation a majority of those voting sufficed.

Mr. Evans doubted this, and some conversation occurred, but a copy of the city charter having been obtained, the chair read that a majority of the whole board was required for the passage of any law, order or resolution.

He decided that the resolution was lost.

A motion to authorize the Superintendent of Police to purchase flag-stones to lay the foot-way asked for by Messrs. Packwood and F. L. Smith, gave rise to a discussion as to the meaning of a former order authorizing the Superintendent of Police to lay the foot-way as soon as he came in possession of flag stones.

Mr. Shinn knew of no way by which the flag stones would come into his possession except by purchase. He could not be expected to steal them.

After further debate the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Parker again called the attention of the Committee on Streets, to the non action on the petition of Michael Smith for a gutter.

Mr. Harrison explained that the work of repairing this gutter would necessitate a gutter for two squares, and would cost \$600.

Mr. Parker did not think \$600 was to be compared to the health of the city, and thought that poor men's wishes were too little regarded here; it was no wonder there was so much difficulty in collecting taxes.

A report in relation to a change in the boundaries of the wards of the city was read and postponed until the next meeting.

The report made recommends that Prince and St. Asaph streets be the dividing lines for the wards; that the wards retain their present numbers; that the old law in reference to the division be repealed and that the proposed act be in force from its passage.

**CORPORATION COURT.**—YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS CONTINUED.—After the close of yesterday's report the case of the Commonwealth vs. David Taylor, indicted for house breaking and stealing, was concluded, the jury rendering a verdict of guilty, and the Court sentencing the prisoner to three months confinement in the county jail.

**TO-DAY.**—Snoot vs. Jamison et al., continued with order for peremptory trial at next term.

**COM. vs. T. N. Carter,** recognizance forfeited and execution ordered.

**Hessius Smith et al. vs. W. N. Berkley,** trespass; jury sworn and case in progress.

**RECEIPTS BY RAILROAD.**—Among the articles of produce, &c., received here by the O. A. & M. R. R. for last week, were the following:—Corn 6,700 bushels, wheat 3,750 bushels, oats 3,214 bushels, rye 332 bushels, potatoes 395 bushels, mill feed 15 bushels, corn meal 45 bushels, dried fruit 70 bushels, seed 45 bushels, beans 15 bushels, onions 5 bushels, flour 719 lbs., bacon 1,485 lbs., eggs 95 lbs., butter 10 lbs., leather 24 rolls, hides 4 bundles, rags 3,160 lbs., hams 8 bbls., cows, calves, &c., 96, line 100 bbls., tallow 2 bbls., spoked 2,600, cattle, sheep and hogs 22 cars.

**SPECIAL TERM OF THE CORPORATION COURT.** Judge Lowe will hold a special term of the Corporation Court on Monday next, in order to dispose of the cases pending on the docket.

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## HYDRAULIC STEAM FIRE ENGINE COMPANY.

A called meeting of this company was held last night. President Barton in the chair. An invitation from a committee of the Columbia Steam Fire Engine Company, to participate in a parade on the 22d of May, was received and read, whereupon, on motion of Mr. R. L. Carne, said invitation was accepted conditionally; the condition being that a sufficient number of the members would agree to uniform in time to participate. A uniform was then partially adopted, and Messrs. Charles Ward, Thomas Dix and B. T. Young were appointed a committee to ascertain how many members would procure it. As there is much difference of opinion as to the color of the proposed uniform, a difficulty in the matter is expected, which may prevent the company from appearing, though the committee express the opinion that enough members will uniform to make a good turn out. After receiving and referring the name of a candidate for membership, the company adjourned.

**INTERUPTION TO CANAL NAVIGATION.**—In consequence of an accident, by which two of the lock gates in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, at the Point of Rocks, were knocked out, navigation was interrupted yesterday. It is supposed that about twenty-four hours delay will be caused by the accident, a short time being necessary to repair the damage and replace the gates. A number of boats that were this side of the Point of Rocks reached here to-day.

**FOUND DEAD.**—A colored man, named Joseph Simpson, who has been living out in the northwestern suburb of the city, was found dead in his bed this morning, by one of his relations. An inquest was held upon the body, by Coroner Bench, and after an examination by Dr. R. C. Powell, a verdict was rendered of death from heart disease. The man went to bed last night in apparent good health.

**RIVER NEWS.**—Affairs on the river were very quiet to-day and but few vessels were arriving. No damage has been reported by the wind last night. Steamer Lady of the Lake from Norfolk reports the prevalence of a violent gale, there about 4 o'clock yesterday evening, when the steamer left, making it difficult for her to get out of harbor. Very few fish boats have come up to-day.

**SUMMONED TO RICHMOND.**—Messrs. George Washington, R. M. Lawson and other merchants of this city, have been summoned to Richmond to testify before the U. S. District Court, in the case of Peter Fagan, charged with an infraction of the Internal Revenue laws. The witnesses leave here to-morrow.

**ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY CO.**—A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Alexandria Library Company will be held to-night at 8 o'clock. Full attendance on the part of the Directors is desired as matters of importance will be presented for consideration.

**THE WEATHER.**—There was much lightning in the Northern sky last night, with some thunder, and rain was expected. But the clouds cleared off during the night, and this morning the weather was cooler. There was, also, last night, for a while, the appearance of an Aurora Borealis.

**TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION** between this city and Harrisonburg was opened to-day, the Secretary of the Virginia Telegraph company this evening receiving a congratulatory dispatch on the occasion of the transmission of messages between the two places.

**GIFT ENTERTAINMENT.**—It will be seen by reference to the advertisement in the Gazette that "Morton's Gift Entertainment" takes place in this city on Saturday next at Liberty Hall.

**RAILROAD REPAIRS.**—Ties are being hauled along St. Asaph street, to be used in repairing the track of the Washington and Alexandria Railroad from King street out.

**COAL.**—Thirty-five boats, carrying 3,880,17 tons of coal left Cumberland, Md., on Monday for Alexandria and Georgetown.

**FISH.**—The arrivals of fish to-day have been limited and prices advanced. There were a few wagons in from the country for supplies.

**ICE.**—Mr. E. C. Atwell announces that he has commenced furnishing ice.

We are now sending to our country subscribers their accounts, which, in general, are each of them small, but in the aggregate are important to us. We would be much obliged by their attention to these bills.

**POLICE REPORT.**—The city, saving the noise of the wind, was remarkably quiet last night, and at police headquarters there was nothing of which to make a note, this morning.

**NIGHT REPORT.**—Early in the night there was a good deal of heat lightning in the North and Northeast, and the wind blew "fresh" from the Southwest. About one o'clock this morning the wind veered to the Northwest and blew a gale, and temperature became much cooler. There were no disturbances nor any arrests, and but four lodgers, two females and two males, were accommodated at the station house.

**SPECIAL NOTICES.**

**SPRING STYLES.**

**BLONDHEIM'S POPULAR CLOTHING HOUSE.** Cor. King and Fairfax sts.

Opened to-day, all the leading styles of Men's and Boys' Clothing; Light Cashmere Suits—Pants with or without Vests.

SPRING SUITS of all kinds, at prices that cannot fail to please. S. BLONDHEIM.

Corner King and Fairfax streets.

I have also made a great improvement to my store by adding a magnificent front.

ap 4-3m

**Medical.**—ESSAYS FOR YOUNG MEN, on great SOCIAL EVILS and ABUSES, which interfere with MARRIAGE—with sure means of relief for the Erring and Unfortunate, diseased and debilitated. Sent free of charge, in sealed envelopes. Address HOWARD ASSOCIATION, No. 28 Ninth street, Philadelphia, Pa. Philadelphia, Feb 13-3m

**Do not despair** until you have consulted old Dr. DABBY, 108 Fourth-and-half street, Washington, D. C. He is invariably successful. Washington, D. C. mh 24-1m

**SALT.**

Direct importation, per "Elliot Chapman," from Liverpool, England.

2500 sacks Extra Fine Salt.

500 sacks Sublimed Fine Salt.

1500 sacks Shaved Fine Salt.

Will be sold at market rates by W. A. SMOOT, mh 4-2m

**4000S GEORGE & JENKINS' PRIME SHOULDERS AND SIDES** for sale by HARLOW & BRO.

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## TELEGRAPHIC.

DISPATCHES TO THE GAZETTE.

FROM WASHINGTON.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The Senate had under consideration to-day the Ku Klux bill, Mr. S. S. S. of Delaware, spoke at length in opposition to it.

The House of Representatives was occupied with the deficiency bill.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The total registered vote of this District at 9 o'clock this morning was 25,647 with a white majority of 5,691. Unless the white majority is much increased, Chipman will, it is thought, be elected.

FOREIGN NEWS.

LONDON, April 12.—The Paris special dispatch of the London Times says the report was widely spread last night that Montreux had been taken.

A great offensive movement by the Versailles troops was expected to take place to-day. Wednesday. The Assembly adopted a resolution expressing regret that it was not enabled to assist at the funerals of the generals killed by the insurgents.

PARIS, April 11.—Last night five gunboats at Pont de la Concord got up steam and went into action. The heavy fighting, but the result is unknown.

This morning at six the firing from Forts was furiously renewed.

The Versailles troops are accused of using explosive bullets, some being found in Fort Vaucluse.

At Fort Issy it was discovered that the bolts on the gates were drawn, or broken off, proving the existence of traitors, among the National guards.

A meeting of women is to be held to-night for the purpose of organizing for the defence of Paris.

Dambrowski has issued orders that no one shall leave Paris without permission.

The Prussians at St. Denis have been reinforced with 5000 men. They will, however, respect the treaty of Versailles.

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